

Case 3589***Hemerodromia* Meigen, 1822 and HEMERODROMIINAE Schiner, 1862 (Insecta, Diptera, EMPIDIDAE): proposed conservation of usage of the genus-group and family-group names**

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Abstract. The purpose of this application, under Article 70.2 of the Code, is to conserve the current usage of the generic name *Hemerodromia* Meigen, 1822, for a well-established genus of empidid flies. The type species of *Hemerodromia* has long been assumed to be *Tachydromia oratoria* Fallén, 1815, designated by Rondani in 1856. However, an earlier type-species designation of *Tachydromia mantispa* Meigen in Panzer, 1806, which is currently recognized as a valid species of *Phyllodromia* Zetterstedt, 1837, was made by Westwood in 1840. Additionally, one more type designation was found for *Hemerodromia* that is earlier than that of Rondani (1856): that by Blanchard in 1845 of *Hemerodromia monostigma* Meigen, 1822, which is currently recognized as a species of *Chelifera* Macquart, 1823. Acceptance of either of these earlier designations would threaten stability of nomenclature and taxonomy of the common and worldwide genus group taxon *Hemerodromia* Meigen, 1822. Acceptance of the Westwood designation would make *Hemerodromia* the senior synonym of *Phyllodromia* Zetterstedt, 1837. Acceptance of the Blanchard designation would make *Hemerodromia* a senior synonym of *Chelifera* Macquart, 1823. Either change would require species in *Hemerodromia* to be placed in the next available genus, *Microdromia* Bigot, 1857. To avoid the nomenclatural and taxonomic instability that would result from following the Principle of Priority, it is proposed that all type fixations for *Hemerodromia* Meigen, 1822 prior to that of *Tachydromia oratoria* Fallén, 1815 by Rondani (1856) be set aside.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Diptera; EMPIDIDAE; HEMERODROMIINAE; *Hemerodromia*; *Tachydromia mantispa*; *Tachydromia oratoria*; *Hemerodromia monostigma*; *Phyllodromia*; *Chelifera*; empidid flies; worldwide.

1. Meigen (1822, p. 61) proposed the generic name *Hemerodromia* with nine originally included species: *Hemerodromia monostigma* Meigen, 1822; *Tachydromia precatória* Fallén, 1815 (as '*Tachydromia praecatoria*'); *Tachydromia oratoria* Fallén, 1815; *Hemerodromia albicornis* Meigen, 1822; *Tachydromia mantispa* Meigen in

Panzer, 1806 (with *Empis melanocephala* Fabricius, 1794 and *Sicus raptor* Latreille, 1806 in synonymy); *Hemerodromia supplicatoria* Meigen, 1822; *Tachydromia vocatoria* Fallén, 1815; *Tachydromia ephippiata* Fallén, 1815; *Tachydromia irrorata* Fallén, 1815. A type species was not designated.

2. Westwood (1840, p. 132) designated *Tachydromia mantispa* Meigen in Panzer, 1806 (as ‘*Ta. mantispa*. Pz.’) as the type species of *Hemerodromia*, and this is the earliest valid designation of an originally included species. *Tachydromia mantispa* is currently recognized as a valid species of *Phyllodromia* Zetterstedt, 1837 (e.g. Chvála & Wagner, 1989; Yang et al., 2007).

3. Blanchard in Audouin (1845, pl. 166) designated *Hemerodromia monostigma* Meigen, 1822 as the type species of *Hemerodromia*. *Hemerodromia monostigma* is currently recognized as the taxonomically valid species of *Chelifera* Macquart, 1823 (e.g. Chvála & Wagner, 1989; Yang et al., 2007).

4. Rondani (1856, p. 148) designated *Tachydromia oratoria* Fallén, 1815 (as ‘TACHIDROMYA ORATORIA Fall.’) as the type species of *Hemerodromia* (as ‘*Hemerodromia*’), and this is the universally recognized type species for this generic name.

5. *Hemerodromia* is a well-established and common generic name in EMPIDIDAE Latreille, 1804, contains more than some 140 species (e.g. Yang et al., 2007; Plant, 2011; Bisby et al., 2012) including one fossil species (Plant et al., 2012), is the type genus for the tribe HEMERODROMIINI Schiner, 1862 (which is within the subfamily HEMERODROMIINAE Schiner, 1862), and is recorded in the regional Diptera catalogues of all the zoogeographical realms: Nearctic (e.g. Melander, 1965; Poole, 1996), Palaearctic (e.g. Chvála & Wagner, 1989), Oriental (e.g. Smith, 1975), Neotropical (e.g. Smith, 1967), and Australasian/Oceanian (e.g. Smith, 1989). A list of 25 works in the last 50 years that uses *Hemerodromia* as a valid genus is kept with the Secretariat.

6. Acceptance of either of the two type species designations listed above that are earlier than that given in Rondani (1856) would threaten the stability of taxonomy and nomenclature of the well-established and common generic name *Hemerodromia*. Acceptance of the type species designation of *Tachydromia mantispa* Meigen in Panzer, 1806 by Westwood (1840, p. 132) would result in the synonymy of *Hemerodromia* (a member of the tribe HEMERODROMIINI) and *Phyllodromia* Zetterstedt, 1837 (a member of the tribe PHYLLODROMIINI Rondani, 1856) with *Hemerodromia* the senior synonym. The genus known as *Phyllodromia* would take on the name *Hemerodromia* (with *Phyllodromia* in subjective junior synonymy). The genus known as *Hemerodromia* would become *Microdromia* Bigot, 1857 (the next available name). Alternatively, acceptance of the type species designation of *Hemerodromia monostigma* Meigen, 1822 would result in the synonymy of *Hemerodromia* Meigen, 1822 and *Chelifera* Macquart, 1823 (both in the tribe HEMERODROMIINI) with *Hemerodromia* the senior synonym. The genus known as *Chelifera* would take on the name *Hemerodromia* (with *Chelifera* in subjective junior synonymy) and the genus known as *Hemerodromia* would become *Microdromia* Bigot, 1857 (the next available name).

7. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

- (1) to use its plenary power to set aside all type species fixations for the nominal genus *Hemerodromia* Meigen, 1822 before that of *Tachydromia oratoria* Fallén, 1815 by Rondani (1856);

- (2) to place on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology the name *Hemerodromia* Meigen, 1822 (gender: feminine), type species *Tachydromia oratoria* Fallén, 1815 by subsequent designation by Rondani (1856) as ruled in (1) above;
- (3) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the name *oratoria* Fallén, 1815, as published in the binomen *Tachydromia oratoria* (specific name of the type species of *Hemerodromia* Meigen, 1822).

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